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Weather Forecast

Friday
 High:32 Low:15

Today
 High:29 Low:5

Saturday
 High:33 Low:14

THURSDAY

Fort Riley Post



Working out
Aerobics classes are available at King Field House five days a week. The classes are open to any Department of Defense identification card holder over 18 years of age.
[See Page 9](#)



Spec. Matthew P. Daige, Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion engages targets with a Squad Automatic Weapon (M-249) during the battalion's company level training exercise.

Engineers fine-tune warfighting skills

By William Biles
Staff Writer
Soldiers from the 1st Engineer Battalion were in the field recently sharpening their skills during the battalion's company level training exercise, which focused on platoon cohesiveness. Soldiers were put to the test by having to accomplish a variety of tasks within the allotted time limits and to the task's standard. "We are exercising the individual level of training while incorporating it into a collective squad and platoon level training exercise," said Command Sgt. Maj. William Rozinek, 1st Eng Bn.



Pvt. Malcolm Kitchen, combat engineer, Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, uncovers a mine during a route clearing training exercise.

Lanes ranged from route clearance to a bridge reconnaissance to decontamination of a chemical attack. At the route clearance site, the platoon size element needed to sweep the lane for land mines and clear any that were found, so a follow-on force could use the route to reach the enemy's objective. "These exercises incorporate all of the basic individual tasks for the soldier, such as, medical buddy aid, because almost every lane has some kind of casualty," said Rozinek. The soldiers had to perform first aid to their fallen comrades and then evacuate them, while still carrying on the mission to its completion, he said. Another situational problem that was given to the battalion's soldiers was to set up a decontamination site where the platoons could go to decontaminate their equipment and themselves. The platoons were watched and graded by observer controllers at each lane.

[See Training Page 2](#)

Troops move out, hone skills at NTC

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer
After months of training, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team left for a rotation at the National Training Center Saturday. The brigade has been training for this rotation for months. "We began training for the rotation as far back as July '02, when the brigade provided a tough OPFOR against our National Guard partners during the Hickory Sting Exercise," said Col. Russ Gold, commander, 3rd BCT. Building on their experiences, the team continued to prepare. "We took the lessons from that event and refined our command and staff processes during platoon Situational Tactical Exercise lanes in August, conducted an NTC Leader's Training Program in September followed by a Brigade Battle Simulation Exercise here at Fort Riley in October," said Gold. "We capped our tactical preparation effort in our force-on-force missions against 1BCT in Gauntlet during November and concluded with Task Force level Combined Arms Live Fire Exercises in December." Gold said he is very satisfied with the performance of his soldiers. "As a result of the rigorous, progressive training model here at Fort Riley, our soldiers and systems are at the peak of their readiness for an NTC rotation," he said.

"They have been intensely focused and know that the NTC is a great training opportunity for any operation that may come their way. We are extremely proud of their efforts and I understand the strain that we have put on family members as well. The entire BCT family has exceeded my expectations, and it is humbling to see the pride and dedication to duty of these soldiers and their families," said Gold. In addition to training, the team also prepared their equipment for departure. "Our soldiers have worked incredibly hard for the last six months, and especially during the holiday season, to ensure they and their equipment were ready for the tremendous mental and physical challenges of an NTC rotation," said Gold. "Along with deploying our advance parties to NTC, we also rail loaded the entire BCT rotational fleet, more than 600 wheeled and tracked vehicles, in one day, a new post record," he added. The brigade looks forward to gaining experience from NTC, said Gold. "The experience we will gain as a result of our rotation is immeasurable. A rotation is designed to test every soldier and system to the limits of endurance, so we can grow as professionals and leave there in the highest state of readiness possible," he said.

[See NTC Page 3](#)

35th ID ready to go

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer
After months of training and preparation, the National Guard's 35th Infantry Division (Mechanized) is beginning to deploy to Bosnia in support of Stabilization Force 13. The 35th Inf. Div. is a National Guard unit headquartered in Kansas. The division began departing for the Balkans this week. The mission for SFOR 13 is a peacekeeping operation. "That consists of showing military professional presence and contributing to a secure environment," said Brig. Gen. Ron Mason, deputy commander, 35th Inf. Div. (M). The transition from part-time to active duty has been a challenge the soldiers have met with a large attitude and high morale. "It is changing your entire way of life," said Spec. Amanda Zishka, radio telephone operator and scribe. "Getting used to the schedule is difficult, but the best part is getting into a routine. I am getting time to perfect my job and my understanding of what I do, before I leave." Zishka is looking forward to the deployment, she said. "I think if I had not joined the military, I would not have been able to go the places I have been, and still look forward to going to."

For other soldiers, the deployment means time spent away from family. "I have a wife and two kids, and it's a bit difficult leaving them behind than it was to"

[See Balkans Page 5](#)

Operation Desert Partner allows local leaders to observe troops in action

By Emily O'Connor
Staff Writer
Dignitaries from local communities will spend part of their weekend and the next work week as "An Army of One" at the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. Fort Riley's semi-annual Operation Desert Partner allows people from communities in the immediate Fort Riley area to become more familiar with the Army, its training methodology and its people by spending time with soldiers and observing their training. Mark Taussig, Manhattan city commissioner, Carolyn Gaston, a public affairs manager for a Fort Riley phone office and Gary Junghans, a Junction City business owner, all visited Fort Riley on Jan. 13 for an orientation and introduction to what they would experience at the NTC. Col. Victor Horton, Fort Riley's staff judge advocate, has never deployed to NTC. He also plans to accompany the civilians, and attended the Jan. 13 orientation. The day began at 11 a.m. with a short briefing from Maj. (P) Todd Livick, public affairs officer. Following the briefing, they were issued Kevlar helmets and flak jackets, and traveled to the Multi-Purpose Range Complex where the group got their first exposure to tanks training for a mission. "We're conducting Tank Table VII out here today, which is a preliminary qualification for Tank Table VIII," said Cpt. Jon Spurlock, adjutant, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor. "All tank teams must complete Tank Table VIII to become a certified tank crew." Sitting with a pair of binoculars and watching the M1A1 Abrams tanks fire rounds downrange and strike targets, Gaston watched intently. Meantime, soldiers at the MPRC began opening a box of Army issue Meals Ready to Eat. Gaston's meal of choice was the Beef with Mushrooms, while Taussig enjoyed his Meatloaf MRE and Junghans sampled the Shrimp Jambalaya with Ham. "It's very interesting to just experience a very small portion of what a soldier goes through to be prepared for a big training mission," Gaston said. "They have to be proficient in the quality of their training; it's interesting to see." Spurlock enjoyed being able to demonstrate some of Fort Riley's training capabilities to the civilian visitors. "Any time that the units here at Fort Riley have the opportunity to foster good relationships with the local communities, it's a good thing," Spurlock said. "It's a good for us and good for them because it provides them with a sense of appreciation for the job that we do out here." After finishing their MREs, the civilians went up onto the second floor observation center of the MPRC tower, where they were able to observe the tank maneuvers from a better vantage point and listen to the radio transmissions the tank teams and the tower commanders were engaged in. Also, in the observation center, they were able to ask questions of soldiers, including Lt. Col.(P) George Brinegar, battalion commander, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor. Brinegar mentioned that each individual tank team is scored in three ways: by computer, optics and on their fire commands. He then showed Junghans, Gaston, Taussig and Horton the scoring charts used to track each tank team. "The 'new Army' videotapes the soldiers in their tanks and on the range," Brinegar said. "This is how they are scored on their fire"



Lt. Col. (P) George Brinegar 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Battalion Commander, shows Carolyn Gaston, Col. Victor Horton and Gary Junghans how tank crews are tracked on their scoring on the various tank table gunnery ranges.

[See Partner Page 2](#)



Tax center offers free tax services to soldier, retirees, dependents

By Emily O'Connor
Staff Writer

Fort Riley will be offering free tax assistance to soldiers, retirees and dependent family members soon. However, some changes have been made in the location of the tax center, its opening date and hours of operation.

According to Capt. Alison Tulud, Fort Riley's tax attorney, the new location of the tax center is at the Army Community Service and Family and Soldier Support Center, building 7264, room 29, on Custer Hill. The tax center will have its own entrance, which will be by the parking lot on the left side, if facing the building.

In addition to the new location, the hours of operation have changed to Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Friday, 8

a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

At the Tax Center's official opening on Feb. 3, 7:45 a.m., Col. John Simpson, garrison commander, Fort Riley, will cut the ribbon, which will officially open the center.

Although the center does not open until next month, appointments may be made beginning later this month. The Tax Center's phone line, 239-1040, will be open on Jan. 24, so that appointments can be made. Those who are able to file a 1040-EZ form will be taken on a walk-in basis, but all others are asked to call to set up an appointment.

"We have a great civilian staff who are diligently studying the finer points of this year's tax laws," said Tulud.

"We have two returning civilians and two returning volunteers which will assist in getting the Tax Center up and running in a smooth and efficient fashion."

Of the Tax Center's 15 civilian employees, nine of them are working full-time and six are working part-time. These civilian employees had to go through a special training course given by a representative from the Internal Revenue Service on how to use the VITA software program.

After this training was completed, a test was administered. The tax clerks will be fully qualified and VITA certified before they begin to work in the Tax Center.

After the testing phase, the tax clerks also trained for five days in hand filing tax returns, followed by three weeks of software training on the Tax Wise software system.

Upon completion of the Tax Wise training by the tax clerks and before the center actually opens, selected individuals will be scheduled to have their taxes

completed and electronically filed from the tax center. This will give the tax clerks practice with the skills they have learned.

"This is simply to make sure that everything is functional and running smoothly," Tulud said.

Gayle Beatty, a five-year veteran in preparing taxes on military installations, enjoys her work and recommends that people qualified to use the center take advantage of it. "It's free, and you can get it in the same amount of time as you could with a paid tax preparation service—about 10 working days."

Units on post also have tax advisors. Second Lt. Keith Shreckengost, fire direction officer, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, is also acting as his unit's tax adviser.

"Basically, our job as unit tax advisers is to assist most of the younger soldiers in

our unit with their 1040-EZ filings," Shreckengost said.

"I think that this will be a good service because it provides soldiers with tax preparation help free of charge," said 1st Lt. Chris Marsico, fire direction officer, Co. D, 1st Bn., 5th FA. "It's convenient for them and allows them direct access to us."

Last year the Tax Center's value of service, or amount of money the center saved soldiers, totaled \$448,709, and the total amount of refunds resulting from taxes filed here at Fort Riley was \$4,250,602, according to Tulud.

"This year we shall be aiming to save the soldiers over half a million in processing fees and trying to reach the \$5 million mark in refunds," Tulud added.

For more information about the Tax Center or to set up an appointment, call 239-1040 after Jan. 24.

Training continued from page 1

The OCs gave on-the-spot evaluations if the platoon made enough mistakes to cause a critical failure of the mission.

"The object here is that when we leave, everyone will be trained, so nobody is a failure," Rozinek said.

One of the harder lanes was the bridge recon site. The soldiers needed to be as technical in their approach as they were tactical, said Rozinek.

"In the briefing the platoon received about the bridge, they were told the bridge is needed as part of the supply route for forward forces. What they're not told is that the bridge isn't capable of supporting the traffic that will be crossing it," he said.

The answer for the bridge lane was to come up with a viable alternate route, which, if they scout the area, would be found 100 meters away, Rozinek stated.

If the soldiers did not come up with that answer, it would be one of the critical failures of the mission and they would then be counseled on the spot. They would

then run through the scenario again, he said.

The Assault and Obstacle platoon also had missions to accomplish during the week of training.

One of A&O's missions was to fortify a Forward Air Resupply Point for an aviation unit. The engineers needed to construct tank burns in order to ensure the survivability of the air unit, Rozinek said.

"One lane for A&O is a mechanical lane. Most of the vehicles used in A&O utilize only one operator for that piece of equipment," he said. "So, the operators need to know how to work on and fix their vehicles. We set up a lane where they will perform maintenance on the equipment, with the aid of our mechanics."

Another lane for the engineers was a live-fire breach where they had to clear a wire obstacle by employing Bangalore torpedoes. In addition, they had to set C-4 charges to detonate land mines emplaced in front of the barrier.

The lower enlisted soldiers

were not the only ones feeling the pressure during the training. The platoon leader and platoon sergeant also felt the stress.

"The soldiers are getting good training in exercise, but the real pucker factor is for the platoon leader and platoon sergeant to be able to put it all together," said Rozinek.

The focus of the training was to get the leaders to the point, in their troop leading procedures, to perform rehearsals as realistically as possible with inert training aids. Then, when it comes time to execute their mission with live explosives, they will be able to do it confidently rather than going out there with someone who is not sure what needs to be done, said Rozinek.

Training in the field helps the new soldiers become accustomed and proficient with their job.

"Every mission I get better and learn something new. Working with live demo is different than training with inert aids because you need to be more cautious with what you are doing," said Pvt.

Scott Wightman, combat engineer.

"We get training out here that we can't get during Sergeant's Time because more training areas

are open to us, plus this is a good chance to have our new soldiers get accustomed to our training doctrine," said Sgt. Jason Wal-

land, team leader.

"This is the highest level of readiness we are able to train at the battalion level," said Rozinek. "Any higher readiness would have to be performed at the brigade level. This is the capstone of our battalion training."



Post/Biles

Pvt. 1st Class Choum Kongsy, Decon Platoon, 1st Eng. Bn., wipes down a vehicle after a mock chemical attack.

Grunt By Wayne Uhden



Partner continued from page 1

commands."

Col. (P) Frank Helmick, acting commander, 24th Infantry Division (Mech.) and Fort Riley, greeted the visitors in the MPRC observation center and advised them on what type of clothing they should pack for their trip to NTC, and some of the things they could look forward to.

"I look forward to seeing each of you out there," Helmick said. "Hopefully what you have seen and will see today will be helpful to you at NTC."

Leaving the MPRC tower, the visitors headed off to the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT) facility on Custer Hill, where they were greeted and introduced to the facility by Mike Kryschal, director of the center. Kryschal

gave a short briefing on how the CCTT assists soldiers in preparing for their missions. Taussig, Gaston, Junghaus and Horton had the opportunity to try their luck in operating an M1A1 Abrams tank simulator in the NTC desert environment.

"I was very impressed with the CCTT," Taussig said. "I am pleased to have a chance to see the facility where they're training modern soldiers. I have confidence in what our Army is doing and in the modern facilities they use to train soldiers in."

Taussig also added that Kryschal invited him to bring dignitaries from Manhattan out to visit the CCTT. "He was very accommodating," Taussig added.

Horton, who has never been to

the NTC before is looking forward to the trip.

"I've spent 24 years in the Army and have spent two tours in Alaska, but have never made it to the National Training Center," Horton said.

"My client (soldiers) goes out there and I'd like to go out there and see what my client is doing. I need to understand my client and in order to do that, I need to see how they train."

Taussig, Junghaus, Gaston, Horton and Livick will depart

Fort Riley Jan. 19 and return Jan. 21.

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MyPay offers soldiers, civilians enhanced services, W-2 online

By Glenn T. Simpkins
4th Finance Battalion (F)

MyPay, formerly E/MSS, offers enhanced services, security, accessibility and reliability to all customers of DFAS, and beginning later this month personnel will be able to print a copy of their W-2 via the MyPay Website.

MyPay allows personnel many options, such as to view, print and save leave and earn statements, view and print tax statements, change federal and state tax withholdings, update bank account and electronic fund transfer information, manage allotments, edit

contact information, purchase U.S. Savings Bonds, control Thrift Savings Plan enrollment (military personnel only) and view and print travel vouchers.

MyPay is safe and secure. It combines strong encryption and SSL technology with your social security number and personal identification number to safeguard your information from any unauthorized access.

MyPay also saves money. Encouraging members and civilians to use MyPay can save millions of dollars, translating into reduced costs for the Department of Defense. By eliminating the costs associated with printing and

mailing Leave and Statements, MyPay can save 34 cents per payee, which generates more than \$6 million in savings for civilian employees alone. By providing better online customer service, MyPay will reduce up to 17 percent of costs associated with traditional customer service activities now performed in person.

All MyPay users must be registered with MyPay. For those who are registered with MyPay, the website is at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. For those who need to register or have forgotten their pin number, see your Personnel Action Center for assistance.

Several airlines waive ticket exchange fees for servicemembers

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

Some U.S. airlines are adjusting their rules so servicemembers won't have to pay penalties if they need to alter ticket reservations because of military duty.

AirTran Airways, Delta Airlines and Hawaiian Airlines now waive ticket change fees for service members on military deployment orders, while ticketing changes on Southwest Airlines are

currently free, according to Jean Marie Ward of the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. Continental, Frontier and Northwest Airlines waive change fees and also will issue refunds on request, she added.

Ward said particulars of these carriers' programs can be viewed at DoD's Military Assistance Program Web site at dod.mil/map-site/airtickets.html. Information from more airlines will be added as it becomes available, she said.

According to General Service Administration officials, a number of other airlines will waive ticket change penalties if service members present copies of their military orders or a letter from their commanders, Ward noted.

The waiver procedures are official company policy for some carriers, she said, but not all reservations or check-in personnel may know that. She suggested travelers call their airline for waiver information before going to the airport.

Talk Around Town

"Is PT in the winter cold harder or easier than in the summer heat?"



"I think it is harder in the summer because it gets really hot here, especially doing PT in the afternoon."



"I think PT is harder in the winter because the cold air is much harder on the lungs. Plus, I'm not a fan of cold weather."



"I think PT is harder in the winter because it is harder to breathe."

Spec. Sumatthana Meisinger-Elston
Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
24th Infantry Division

Pfc. Matthew Doyle
Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
24th Infantry Division

Spec. Marlena Rose
Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
24th Infantry Division

Third quarter 2002 court martial results released by Fort Riley SJA

The following cases went to courts-martial during the third quarter of calendar year 2002, and resulted in the stated adjudged sentences.

Pvt. Christopher L. Skelton, 1st Replacement Company, 1st Personnel Services Battalion, was convicted at a general court-martial of three specifications of AWOL, one specification of conspiracy to commit forgery, seven specifications of forgery and two specifications of willful destruction of military property. This soldier was sentenced to forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for one year and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pvt. 2 Thomas M. Hooper, 1st Replacement Company, 1st Personnel Services Battalion, was convicted at a general court-martial of two specifications of AWOL, two specifications of wrongful use of marijuana, one specification of conspiracy to commit forgery, one specification

of uttering a check with intent to defraud and one specification of larceny. This soldier was sentenced to reduction to private, E1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for four months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pvt. Keith O. Garrett, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, was convicted at a special court-martial of two specifications of attempted larceny. This soldier was sentenced to confinement for four months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pfc. Joseph F. Pitawanakwat, Company B, 125th Forward Support Battalion, was convicted at a general court-martial of one specification of obtaining services under false pretenses and one specification of disobeying a lawful order. This soldier was sentenced to reduction to private,

confinement for eight months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pfc. Christopher W. Jones, Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, was convicted at a special court-martial of two specifications of wrongful use of marijuana, one specification of possession of marijuana, one specification of larceny, four specifications of failure to go to appointed place of duty, one specification of AWOL, one specification of breaking restriction, one specification of willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer and one specification of misbehavior of sentinel. This soldier was sentenced to reduction to private, confinement for eight months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pvt. James L. Turner, Company A, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, was convicted at a general court-martial of one specification of burglary, one specification

of conspiracy to commit burglary, four specifications of larceny, one specification of conspiracy to commit larceny, five specifications of damage to non-military property, two specifications of false statement, one specification of unlawful entry and one specification of wrongfully receiving stolen property. This soldier was sentenced to forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for thirty-eight months and to be discharged from the service with a dishonorable discharge.

Pvt. Michael A. Keller, Company A, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, was convicted at a general court-martial of one specification of wrongful use of marijuana, one specification of burglary, one specification of conspiracy to commit burglary and two specifications of larceny of non-military property. This soldier was sentenced to forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement

for nineteen months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Pvt. 2 Charles R. Decew, Company A, 125th Forward Support Battalion, was convicted at a general court-martial of two specifications of AWOL, two specifications of larceny and two specifications of unlawful entry. This soldier was sentenced to reduction to private, E1, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for fourteen months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

Spec. Michael P. Ruggia, Company A, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, was convicted at a general court-martial of one specification of conspiracy to commit larceny, one specification of larceny, four specifications of damage to private property and one specification of unlawful entry. This soldier was sentenced to reduction to private, E1, forfeiture

of all pay and allowances, confinement for nine months and to be discharged from the service with a bad-conduct discharge.

A sergeant in Company B, 125th Forward Support Battalion, was convicted at a general court-martial of one specification of carnal knowledge of a child under the age of twelve years, one specification of sodomy with a child under the age of twelve years, one specification of indecent acts with a child under the age of sixteen years, one specification of indecent liberties with a female under the age of sixteen years, one specification of wrongful possession of child pornography and one specification of wrongful distribution of child pornography. This soldier was sentenced to confinement for seventeen years, reduction to private and to be discharged from the service with a dishonorable discharge.

NTC continued from page 1

The team plans to take as much from the experience as they can.

"We have asked the NTC to make our rotation as challenging as the scenarios will allow, and are focused on synchronizing multiple, continuous offensive operations. You win wars by attacking, and I intend to leave there with a reputation as an offensively-oriented, aggressive, tenacious unit," said Gold.

"The keys to success out there

are to maintain our systems, particularly our vehicles, in a challenging environment, sustain our soldiers through continuous operations and most importantly, exhibit the positive traits of good attitude and aggressiveness."

The morale of the soldiers is high, and they look forward to the training experiences they will

receive at NTC, said Sgt. Dany Cabaler.

"We are prepared for anything and know that the training will be intense, but fun."

Spec. Adam Kurtz, leader, 1st Battalion, 13th Armor, agreed that the morale of the soldiers is high.

"We are excited to go. This is

what we prepare for," he said.

"The soldiers help each other out. Some of the soldiers who have been to NTC before know what to expect and help prepare the newer soldiers for what is to come."

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Briefs

Departure Ceremony

The 35th Infantry Division (Mechanized) departure ceremony is scheduled for Sunday in Manhattan. The division will be deploying to Bosnia as part of Stabilization Force 13. The ceremony is scheduled for 1 p.m. at Fred Bramlage Coliseum on the Kansas State University campus. The coliseum will open at 12:30.

Annual Meeting

United Way of Riley County announces its 2002 Annual Meeting will be held at the KSU Alumni Center on Jan. 28, at noon. Officers will be elected, board members inducted, volunteer awards presented and the annual business meeting conducted. Reservations may be made by contacting the United Way office, 776-3779, or by e-mail at office@unitedwayrc.org by tomorrow.

Prayer Breakfast

The Fort Riley National Prayer Breakfast will be held on Feb. 27, 6:30 - 8 a.m., at King Field House. The guest speaker is Chaplain (BG) David H. Hicks, Deputy Chief of Chaplains. Tickets are available through command sergeants major. The suggested donation is \$6. Parking is limited. Shuttle service will be available from Riley's parking lot beginning at 5:30 a.m.

Hunter Education

The Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011, will be hosting a Kansas Hunter's Education class Jan. 30 and 31 and Feb. 1. Class will be 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Jan. 30 and 31, and 9 a.m. - noon on Feb. 1. Interested students can sign up at the Outdoor Recreation Center or call 239-2363. The class is free of charge.

Local OCS Board

Packets need to be turned into Soldier Actions, building 7806, no later than Jan. 29.

The Local OCS Board will convene on Feb. 12 at 8 a.m., building 8068. For more information, call Spec. Daniel Briones, 239-5901.

Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand YOU?

Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class on Jan. 25, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, room 30. Free child care is provided, if you bring your child's shot records.

Register by Jan. 23 by calling 239-3436. Presented by Chaplain (MAJ) Paulson, the Fort Riley Family Life Chaplain.

Cancer Support Group

The Fort Riley Cancer Support Group meeting will be Feb. 5, 6 p.m., at Irwin Army Community Hospital, first floor, in the patient waiting area of the Combined Surgery Clinic. Participants are asked to bring any news articles pertaining to their cancer diagnosis. Military service members, their family members and Department of Army Civilians are welcome to attend. Participation is encouraged for persons who were recently diagnosed with cancer, family and friends of persons with cancer, and cancer survivors. The Fort Riley Cancer Support Group meeting is usually held on the first Wednesday of the month. For more information, call 239-7163.

Holiday Refuse Schedule

The holiday refuse schedule will be in effect next week in observance of Martin Luther King day. The schedule is: Monday - No pickup; Tuesday - Colyer Manor, Main Post and Marshall Field; Wednesday - Ellis Heights, O'Donnell Heights and Peterson Heights (north of Thomas Avenue) and dumpsters at buildings 27, 28, 45, 470, 471, 540, 541, 620, 510 and 5309; Jan. 23 and 24 - No change from regular schedule.

Leave Donation

Several Fort Riley employees are experiencing a personal or a family medical emergency and are facing a period of more than 24 hours of Leave Without Pay. Due to the Privacy Act, we are unable to expand on specific medical reasons; however, we can tell you that the following individuals have requested that their names be released in order that they may receive donated leave: Anna Ostrowski-DRM-CPACLT0309, Lori Domina-G1-CPACLT0306, Gary Barrick-G3-CPACLT0220, Jeanne Noss-HQ GARRISON-CPACLT0301, Berry L. Morton-MEDDAC-CPACLT0308, Marretta Lewis-MEDDAC-CPACLT0224, Richard Price-PAO-CPACLT0310, Scott Melcher-PW-CPACLT0302, Don Webb-PW-CPACLT0305, Niel Sitton-SJA-CPACLT0214, Mozelle Corbin-SWCPOC-CPACLT0304 and CeCelia Liggett-5th Army, 75th-CPACLT0311.

To donate annual leave to any of the individuals listed above, please complete OPM Form 630. This form is located on the CPAC Intranet web site under "Forms." Completed forms should be forwarded to: Sonja Elzy, CPAC. For additional information on leave donation procedures, please contact your Activity's Administrative POC.

National Radon Action Month

Radon is a health risk facing millions of Americans. January has been designated by the U.S. EPA as National Radon Action Month. Like National Radon Action Week, the focus of NRAM is to promote awareness about, testing for and mitigation of indoor radon gas with various events and outreach campaigns. Radon testing is done for on-post housing by the Fort Riley, Directorate of Environment and Safety and Army Family Housing, Radon Program. If you live off post, you can purchase radon test kits for \$7, plus shipping and handling fees, from the Riley County Health Department, 785-776-4779, 2030 Tecumseh Rd, Manhattan, KS. Contact the DES for any questions that you may have about radon at 785-239-8604.

Pregnancy PT

Pregnancy Physical Training is held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday on the basketball court at Long Fitness Center, 8069 Normandy Dr. 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. The program is designed to serve the special needs of the pregnant soldier by providing appropriate physical training and a health education program. Pregnancy PT supports the Fort Riley units by offering consistent health guidance for pregnant soldiers.

Every Tuesday, is an hour-long education program, which is held in the Education Bay, fourth floor of Irwin Army Community Hospital, from 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. Short presentations by health care staff members cover a variety of topics, such as infant car seats, skin care during pregnancy, and the common discomforts of pregnancy.

Spouses, or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier are welcome to attend. Participation in the Pregnancy PT program is encouraged although participation isn't mandatory.

For more information, call Sgt. Carrie M. Jensen at 239-4260/1777 or leave a message at 762-7012.

New OB Class

The New OB Class is held every Tuesday, 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., on the 4th floor of Irwin Army Community Hospital. A positive pregnancy test is required before scheduling your attendance of the New OB Class. Spouses or men and women who are the support persons for the pregnant soldier or military dependent are welcome to attend. Expectant mothers will be introduced to the IACH OB/GYN staff members; fill out their OB charts, review medical and genetic history with an OB/GYN staff member and will also be provided information on available resources offered on Fort Riley or in the local communities. The New OB Class is not a labor and delivery class.

To schedule your attendance of the New OB Class, call the TRICARE Service Center at 784-1200 or toll-free, 1-888-874-9378.

Thrift Shop

Come to the Thrift Shop and see the wide selection of clothes, military uniforms, housewares, furniture, jewelry, music, sporting goods and lots more.

There are many volunteer opportunities available! All volunteers are reimbursed for childcare and they also have first choice of the new items. The Thrift Shop is located in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874.

Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

The Shoppe

The Shoppe's vendors and crafters would like to thank the

community for all of their support in 2002. The Shoppe had a very successful and is kicking off the New Year with a "winter blahs" sale through Jan. 29. Come in and receive 10 percent off! (Some restrictions apply.)

The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Our hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

Volunteers needed

The Historical Board is recruiting docents for the Custer House and Fort Riley tours. There will be a training session tomorrow, 9:30 a.m. - noon, at the Cavalry Museum. Contact Jane Plessl, 717-3285, to register for the training.

Prenatal classes

The Women Infant Care Center of Irwin Army Community Hospital is offering a new series of prenatal classes, "The Gift of Motherhood" on Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., 3rd floor classroom. Expectant mothers, between their 12th and 40th week of pregnancy are eligible to attend. The prenatal classes are free and each participant will receive a personal copy of the book, "The Gift of Motherhood" to take home. Expectant mothers are asked to bring their spouse, significant other or birth coach. The class is limited to 20 participants. The prenatal classes will continue to be held on the third Saturday of every month at IACH. For more information, please call Maj. Susanna Iarna, 239-7434. To register for "The Gift of Motherhood" prenatal classes, please call the Fort Riley TRICARE Service Center at 784-1200 or toll free is 1-888-874-9378.

Instructor Needed

The Sports/Fitness Department is looking for certified, experienced and highly energetic aerobic instructors. Call 239-2813 for

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More Briefs

additional information.

ACAP Job Fair

The Army Career and Alumni Program is sponsoring a Job Fair Jan. 31, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., in the ACAP Center in building 210, room 7, Custer Avenue on Main Post. There will be local, national and international employers present to talk with and interview prospective employees. A list of employers invited to this Job Fair will be posted in the ACAP Center. Watch for updated list. To prepare for the Job Fair you should, research the companies that you would like to talk to, have your resumes ready (if you have not finished your resume, come anyway, you can always send your resume later), come dressed appropriately for the interview and look and be sharp. Visit or call the ACAP Center, 239-2278/2248, for more information.

Advanced AFTB Training

Army Family Team Building training scheduled for winter includes:

Advanced AFTB on Wednesday. This class will include Intermediate Problem Solving and Time Management. Another Advanced AFTB class will be held Feb. 5, and will include Military Grade and Command Structure and

Understanding the Organization of the Total Army.

Information on other AFTB classes can be found at the Fami-

ly Readiness Center, building 7264. Classes will be held at the FRC from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 239-9435 for more information or to reserve a spot in any and all classes. Reservations are not necessary, but are preferred.

AFTB Classes

Do you know where to go for benefits? Do you know your options after retirement? Do you know the LES has changed?

Do you know answers for new dependents who have questions?

Do you know what the Army expects of you? Army Family Team Building can show you all the benefits and tools available to you as a military family member. Whether you've been with the Army for six months or six years, AFTB can help.

WHO: Soldiers, Spouses, Family members and Civilians
WHAT: Free AFTB Level One Classes WHEN: Two Fridays per month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Class dates Feb. 7 and 21 and March 7 and 21 at the Armed Services YMCA, 111 East 16th St., Junction City.

Register or just find out more information by calling the AFTB office at 239-9435. Parents needing FREE childcare will be taken on a first to register, first served basis, so you must pre-register for FREE childcare by calling 239-1831 no later than one week prior to the class.

Bible Study

Join the Faithful Men's Bible Study as they discuss "Spiritual

Leadership Principles" on Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 a.m., at Kapaun Chapel. For more information contact Don Ericson, director of religious education, 239-9313.

Mail training

Unit Mailroom Service Training will be conducted Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., building 319, CPAC. Official Mail Training will be conducted Feb. 7, at bldg 319, CPAC. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

Winter Luau

A Winter Luau will be held at Eyster Indoor Pool, building 6940, Custer Hill, Jan. 24, 2003, 8 - 10 p.m. There will be Hawaiian drinks, snacks, music and lots of games and prizes.

Admission will be \$1. For more information, call 239-9441

Tax Center

Fort Riley will be offering free tax assistance to soldiers, retirees and dependent family members soon. Retirees may begin calling the center for an appointment on Monday.

The location of the tax center is at the Army Community Service and Family and Soldier Support Center, building 7264, room 29, on Custer Hill. The tax center will have its own entrance, which will be by the parking lot on the left side, if facing the building.

The hours of operation will be Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.



MEDDAC/Howe

A soldier receives a smallpox shot from Private First Class Tequicia Cox, Jan. 12, at Irwin Army Community Hospital. Fort Riley DENTAC and MEDDAC soldiers were the first to be given the vaccination. The service members were given instructions for wound care and told to report back for their scheduled checking of the vaccination site. In December 2002, the commander-in-chief, Pres. George W. Bush, ordered all DoD military personnel to be given the smallpox vaccination.

Grants available for groups

American Forces Press Service

Volunteer community organizations have until April 30 to enter the fourth annual Newman's Own Award for Military Community Excellence competition for a share of \$50,000 in grants.

The contest is co-sponsored by the Newman's Own Co., the Fisher House organization, and the Military Times Media Group. First prize of a \$10,000 grant goes to the group with the most innovative plan to improve the quality of life for military families and their communities.

Contest judges allocate the remaining \$40,000 in grants to other organizations based on programs that "capture the spirit of volunteerism," according to a Fisher House spokesman. He also said organizations should primarily be those with volunteers rather than paid professional staffs, such as PTAs, student classes, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and spouses' clubs that need financial aid for projects supporting the military community.

For specific eligibility and entry rules, visit the Fisher House Web site at www.fisherhouse.org or call (888) 294-8560.

Balkans

continued from page 1

leave my parents behind 15 years ago," said Sgt. James Grosdidier, driver and clerk. "They have had time to prepare for my leaving," he said. "My wife and I have been preparing the kids for it, so they weren't taken by surprise."

Being called to active duty has affected the soldiers' lives in different ways. "I am a student, studying education," said Zishka. "Because of the deployment, I have taken the last year off from school." But, Zishka said she plans to continue her education with online classes while in Bosnia.

"There are different issues about active duty that the soldiers deal with," said Grosdidier. "There is less privacy. I have to be polite and aware of other space. I also sleep on my stomach so I don't snore," he added.

Being away from family is

something that has been prepared for, said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Don Davidson. "Separation anxiety is a normal human emotional response to an abnormal separation. Every person is unique in how they deal, or decide not to deal with, their emotional response," he said.

There are five chaplains and assistants that are part of the deployment, said Davidson.

"We have offered classes in stress reduction, anger management, separation anxiety, suicide awareness and one of our chaplains has offered a continuing class on religions in Bosnia," he said.

Many things have been done to help the soldiers and their families prepare for separation.

"We have had family classes to explain to them about pay and how to look up leave and earning

statements online. We have talked to them about separation anxiety, and we have had several family days where we get together and have dinner and talk about the mission. We get the families involved so they understand what their soldier is doing," said Mason.

The transition to active duty has also benefited the soldiers professionally, said Maj. Eddie Nagel, current operations chief.

"It is a re-greening process. We have soldiers that have been out of basic training for ten years. This is a process of re-learning what we do," said Nagel. "We will take all that we learn in this arena and bring it back to our home stations."

The soldiers were recently refreshed at Fort Riley on Common Task Training as well as the-

ater specific training.

"The Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training involved training in such things as what to do if we find ourselves in a mine field. We also had common task tests, which include how to don the [protective mask] as well as the Mission Oriented Protection Posture gear, how to set up a claymore mine and the basic common tasks that every soldier knows," said Mason.

In addition, soldiers went through Stability And Support Operations training. "SASO involves how to set up a hasty check point and other kinds of collective tasks," said Mason.

Mason said that he was pleased with the training environment on post.

"The training at Fort Riley has been tremendous. The support

that we have received from the full-time force has been excellent. There has been no effort spared to prepare these soldiers."

As far as the mission ahead is concerned, Mason said, "We are ready to be successful."

Editor's Note: Watch for more on the 35th Infantry Division's mission and departure to the Balkans on "In Step With Fort Riley," Sunday, 7 a.m., on WIBW, Channel 13 and daily on post Channel 2 at 6:30 and 8 a.m., noon, and 6 and 10 p.m.

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Korea 50 years ago - Allies repel attacks

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

Two new Chinese armies hit the front lines 50 years ago this week in Korea as the Reds attacked Capitol Hill and the area around Ch'orwon.

Jan. 9, 1953 — President Harry Truman submits his last budget, which totals \$78.6 billion, for fiscal year 1954 beginning July 1. He earmarks 73 percent of it for the military.

The defense budget will continue bringing the Air Force up to its authorized force of 143 wings. Currently there are 100 wings and the bill will add six new ones, with plans to add 27 more the following year.

The \$100 billion to overhaul and build new ships includes a new Forrestal-class aircraft carrier.

Under the bill the Army gets another division, bringing the total number of divisions to 21. It also provides for 18 regimental combat teams.

Jan. 9-15 — North Korean refugees who reach the U.N. front Jan. 9 say that there are extreme

shortages of food, clothing and medical care for civilians. But they say there's no chance of a revolt because of the communist secret police system and the huge communist military organizations in the north.

Bridges, rails and highways around Sinanju are targets for allied aircraft this week.

The town is the arrival point for military supplies shipped through Manchuria. The largest of the raids are on Jan. 10 when 300 planes hit the targets and on Jan. 13 as 440 planes add their punch.

Jan. 10 — The 5th Air Force reports that from Jan. 3-9 allied pilots shot down two MiGs and damaged nine. Three allied planes were lost to ground fire.

Jan. 11 — The Air Force reports that the allied planes that accidentally strafed and bombed American soldiers on the front lines Jan. 8 were probably Marine Corps Phantom jets. There were

14 soldiers killed and nine wounded in the mistake. Jan. 12 — Significant ground action is limited to Jan. 11-12 when allied troops beat off Chinese attacks on Capitol Hill and around Ch'orwon in IX Corps' central front.

The ROK 12th Division, new to combat, beat back an enemy attack in the Punchbowl area in X Corps' eastern zone.

Two new Chinese armies of 35-40,000 men each relieve two front-line armies. One of them, the 47th, has Mao Tse-tung as honorary commander. One of the armies being relieved, the 38th, was chewed up by the South Koreans in the fight for White Horse Hill in the fall.

Jan. 13 — Air Force Maj. James Jabara, the first American jet ace in Korea, voluntarily rejoins the 4th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in Korea Jan. 13. He had only completed 63 missions when he was sent back to the

United States. The standard is 100 fighter missions.

Jan. 14-15 — U.S. pilots down eight MiGs and damage 11 others. The National Christian Council in Pusan protests to Gen. Mark Clark, U.N. Supreme Commander in Tokyo, the fatal beating of Rev. Wha Il Pang by a U.S. Army lieutenant and three of his men.

He is asked to "tighten up the discipline of some U.N. soldiers" to protect "rights of Korean civilians."

The U.N. truce talk liaison officers at Panmunjom tell their communist counterparts on Jan. 15 that Sunday is the only day their supply convoys will have safe passage into the headquarters, instead of every day. A U.N. spokesman said the communists "abused the daily convoy privilege by using it in direct support of their war effort in the Kaesong area."

A Defense Department spokesman reports that as of Jan. 9 the total American casualties are 128,271, including 22,683 dead.

Fort Riley continues to be a Korean War Commemorative Community through 2003.

DoD to recognize Korea vets with medal

By Tesia Williams
Army News Service

A new defense medal will eventually be issued to military members who served in the Republic of Korea, or adjacent waters, after July 28, 1954.

The new Korea Defense Service Medal was authorized by the Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Authorization Act.

The U.S. Korea Defense Service Medal should not be confused with the foreign service Republic of Korea War Service Medal that was authorized for U.S. military personnel who served in Korea between June 25, 1950 and July 27, 1953, officials said.

The new medal will be for those who served in Korea after the war, up to an undetermined ending date, said officials from the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Given the volume of anticipated recipients, officials said the time it will take to award the KDSM is difficult to estimate. They said it will take time to identify, notify and award the medal to eligible former service members.

Some of the actions that must be completed are: designing the medal, obtaining necessary funding, developing policy for issuance and wear and processing to include verification of service and then award of the medal.

The first three actions should be completed in approximately four to six months, officials said. However, based on previous experiences when creating service medals the entire process can take up to a year, officials added.

West Nile Virus, mosquitoes still reeking havoc well into winter months

By Chuck Wagner
American Forces Press Service

The Armed Services Blood Program Office has asked the military to withdraw all frozen blood supplies donated during last summer's West Nile virus epidemic to avoid transmitting the potentially fatal disease to recipients.

Meanwhile, blood collection centers and blood plasma manufacturers are scurrying to replace military stockpiles as a potential war looms in Iraq.

"There is some additional urgency" about the need to replenish supplies under the prospect of war, said Col. G. Michael Fitzpatrick, blood program office director.

The armed services have already replaced at-risk blood supplies within the European and Central commands, which would be front-line in a conflict with

Iraq.

The withdrawal went into effect Dec. 13, after a statement by the American Association of Blood Banks. The American Red Cross, America's Blood Centers and the Armed Services Blood Program Office coordinated the withdrawal, which includes the Defense Department and civilian blood banks nationwide.

The ultimate goal is to replace all the frozen blood withdrawn from the current inventory. "The withdrawal is focused on frozen products (particularly plasma products) that were collected in states experiencing mosquito-borne transmission of West Nile virus to humans in 2002," according to a blood program office press release.

The release said the services will accelerate the production of frozen plasma products to replace withdrawn stocks and begin

stockpiling frozen plasma for the summer.

Most of the liquid red blood cells collected during the height of the West Nile virus epidemic have already been transfused," the release said.

The blood program office estimates it will take until mid-March to replace the entire inventory. Blood banks were asked to quarantine, but not destroy, at-risk blood products. Meanwhile, blood banks are prioritizing their supply by sending out the safest stocks first.

The Defense Department's supply of frozen red blood cells stored for contingency operations will not be affected by the withdrawal, Fitzpatrick said, because these units were not collected during the 2002 West Nile epidemic. This includes blood stored on Navy ships.

The services have three major

repositories for contingency blood supplies — one in Italy, two in Korea. Frozen blood plasma stored in these banks was donated in the late 1980s to early 1990s, prior to the first West Nile virus outbreak in New York during the summer of 1999.

Doctors identified 13 transfusion recipients who acquired West Nile through blood collected from eight donors last year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The eight donors resided in states where doctors documented mosquito-borne West Nile infections to humans. Since Dec. 3, 2002, doctors have reported 3,775 human cases of the virus, with 216 deaths. Only three deaths were related to blood transfusions.

Military and civilian blood collection organizations have asked donors to help fill the sudden dip in supply, Fitzpatrick said donors

with Type AB blood are especially welcome, because AB is the universal blood plasma type.

No Food and Drug Administration-licensed test yet exists to detect the presence of West Nile in blood. The Armed Services Blood Program Office has issued donor screening and deferral guidelines to military collection sites to help identify donors who may have West Nile symptoms.

This measure is intended to decrease the risk of infecting recipients in the event a test is not

available by summer 2003.

Editor's note: Persons interested in donating blood on Fort Riley can do so Feb. 19-21, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Robinson Gym. The 3rd Brigade is sponsoring the blood drive. The date and time are subject to change. Watch for an announcement in the briefs section of the Fort Riley Post.

For general information on donating blood, call 1-888-719-8929.

Aviation to add reconnaissance team to ranks

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

As the Army transforms, the aviation field plans to add to its ranks a reconnaissance team that will include manned and unmanned aerial vehicles and Comanche helicopters, announced Lt. Gen. Johnny Riggs, the director of the Objective Force Task Force.

During the annual Association of the United States Army Aviation Symposium Jan. 6-8 in Alexandria, Va., Riggs told attendees that aviation will be an important part of the Army's new "Units of Action" which will be ready and equipped in 2010.

In late November, an aviation detachment was added to the makeup of Units of Action, which is roughly a joint-service, brigade-sized unit that will be decisive in any operation, against any threat level, in any environ-

ment, according to the Operational and Organizational Plan.

The aviation detachment would be made up of three soldiers, 12 Comanche helicopters and eight UAVs, Riggs said. Its mission would be to conduct reconnaissance, provide aerial close support and engage and destroy when necessary, Riggs added.

This year's Defense Appropriations Bill and Authorization Act authorized the purchase of 650 Comanche helicopters and in fiscal year 2008, they will be the first aviation platforms for the Objective Force. The Comanche is being named by some the "eyes and guide" of the joint force.

Long time advocate of the Comanche, retired general and president of AUSA Gordon Sullivan said the Comanche is the key to winning the information war, owning the night and ensuring defeat of America's future enemies.

What role the UAVs will play

in the Units of Action are the near-term challenges, said Lt. Gen. Benjamin Griffin, the GR deputy chief of staff. Everything from surveillance to attack to re-supply is what UAVs will be expected to do, officials said.

"Technology has an impact on how we shape the force," Riggs

said. "Technology itself is not the solution, but it provides you the menu for the solution. ... I'm proud to say that we have a phenomenal amount of money to go toward research, development and acquisition — \$28.5 billion. But the soldier is really the integral part of the formation."

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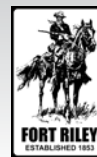
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Fort Riley Community



January 16, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

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Post-Bender

Pam Metz, wife of Maj. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, makes her selection of Girl Scout Cookies from Emallie Gowers, 7, Brownie Troop 527. Emallie is accompanied by fellow Brownie Adriana Gonzalez, 8, Brownie Troop 370 and Girl Scouts Katlin and Kayla Smart, 9, Jr. Troop 530. Cookie presales began Jan 3 and will end Jan 23. Booth sales at the Post Exchange and Commissary will begin Feb. 28 thru Mar. 17. For more information, call Pam Gonzalez at 210-1208.

Action should be taken immediately to prevent identity theft, fraud

By Timothy Thomas

SJA

There is a serious and immediate threat to not only your credit, but that of your spouses and even children. Some of you may have received a letter in the mail concerning the theft of some computers from the Triwest (Tricare) offices in Arizona. On those computers were approximately half a million social security numbers of soldiers and family members. Luckily, there is a solution, but only if you act quickly.

There are three main credit reporting bureaus. These bureaus allow you to request what is called a "fraud alert."

What a fraud alert does is require that the bureaus contact you at a number of your choosing whenever anyone requests credit on your account. You can also use this alert to help you with your children, and your spouse can call as well under his or her own individual social security number.

The important thing to remember is, you are not just checking on whether or not you or your spouse have already been the victim of identity theft, but you are also preventing future damage to your credit, as well as damage to

your child's credit.

The process of requesting a fraud alert is fairly simple. You call up the credit reporting bureaus and input your information into an automated system. It takes about five minutes per call to explaining the situation concerning the theft of your social security number and other personal information from Triwest (Tricare). You will spend approximately five minutes with each company giving them your information. The process itself is free. You need to be sure to request that a "fraud alert" be set up on your account.

You can then repeat this process for your child, and your spouse will need to repeat the process for him or herself as well.

It is highly critical that you request the fraud alert with ALL three bureaus, since they do not always talk to each other, and businesses and creditors may talk to one bureau but not to another. It is also critical that you check your children's credit as well, because this can cause big problems when down the road.

The contact information for the three major credit reporting bureaus is:

See Fraud Alert Page 8

New system for picking up prescriptions will be running soon

By William Biles

Staff Writer

When someone is sick, usually the last thing they want to do is to stand in a long line waiting to receive medications.

Unfortunately, that is too often what happens at Irwin Army Community Hospital. Fortunately, that will be changing later this month as IACH starts to use a new format called the Q-Matic System.

"This system is designed to accurately track waiting times to better serve our patients," said Allan K. Terry, acting chief, Pharmacy Service.

"This system will help eliminate our current waiting lines to claim new prescriptions."

The Q-Matic system is just that, a queuing system.

All patients requesting new prescriptions to be dispensed will be asked to check-in when arriving at the Outpatient Pharmacy, said Terry.

"Once they check-in, they will receive a ticket to secure their place in the dispensing line. Active duty personnel in uniform will receive priority if the medications they are claiming are for them," Terry said. "Currently, we do not give the soldiers in uniform priority," he added.

The pharmacy has installed number display counters above the dispensing windows.

"As ticket numbers appear above the windows, patients having those tickets will then be served," Terry said.

The current system requires the patients to wait in the pick-up line to claim their prescriptions, and with the limited space in the waiting area, doing so can be difficult, he said.

"With our new system, the only line for new prescriptions will be the drop-off line where the tickets are issued," said Terry.

The numbers will display on boards in both patient waiting areas of the pharmacy.

"Patients who leave one minute to come to the window before the next patient is called up," he said. "Pharmacy staff request that those seats closest to the dispensing windows be reserved for handicapped or disabled patients," Terry added.

There should be less confusion in the future, as patients will easily be able to see on the board how many patients are ahead of them in the line, he said.

Patients who leave the waiting area before their number is called will be asked to take another ticket upon their return.

"Their place in line will not be secured if they take a ticket and then go shopping or out to lunch," Terry said. "However, patients may drop off prescriptions to be picked up at a later date when they can afford to wait their turn," he stated.

The current method of dispensing medication refills will continue, unchanged.

"All patients are requested to call the Automated Telephonic

Refill System (239 - PHAR) one full duty day ahead for their refill

medication needs," said Terry. Refills may be claimed at the

Refill Pharmacy dispensing windows.



Post-Bender

Patients wait their turn at the Irwin Army Community Hospital Pharmacy. The Q-Matic System that IACH will start using later this month should eliminate lines at the pharmacy.

Childcare rates increase for some, decrease for others

CYS Release

Effective Feb. 1, child care fees will be changed in accordance with Department of the Army guidance. A fee sheet for the Child Development Center and School Age Services programs is located on the Central Enrollment Registry section on the Fort Riley web page. Fees are used to pay the salaries of the staff that provide direct care to the children and youth. The important factors in quality of child and youth programs are trained staff, strong standards and oversight through inspections. These features mean that you as the customer receive your money's worth and more - the highest possible quality programs for your children and youth.

Two changes in the way the fees are calculated

will give some dual military couples and lower income families a price decrease. First, CAT I has been increased from \$0-\$23,000 to \$0-\$28,000. All other categories will remain the same. Secondly, dual military patrons, regardless of where they reside (on or off-post) will only be required to include the BAH II (married with dependents rate) of the senior ranking member in calculating their Total Family Income.

Open Recreation (hourly) fees for the SAS will increase from \$1.25 per hour to \$1.50 per hour, and hourly care in the CDC will remain at \$2.50 per hour. For those hourly patrons in CAT I, the hourly fees will be \$1.25 in SAS and \$2 in the CDC. Fees for T-ball, baseball, softball, and basketball will increase to \$30 per season per child.



Ducks Unlimited comes to Fort Riley

By William Biles

Staff Writer

The Fort Riley Chapter of Ducks Unlimited has been approved and will be hosting its first banquet at the Rally Point Feb. 28, 6 - 10 p.m.

The Ducks Unlimited organization's mission is to help conserve, restore and manage wetlands and associated habitats for North American waterfowl.

The Ducks Unlimited history dates back to the

winds that created the Dust Bowl. Untold acres of wetland habitat vanished in the 1930's, taking with them the promise of generations of waterfowl.

In 1937, a small group of conservationists, who realized that the majority of North America's waterfowl breed in the Canadian prairies, organized to raise money in the United States for waterfowl conservation in Canada. It was the unique idea that became Ducks Unlimited.

"Ducks Unlimited benefits all forms of life by focusing on wet-

land restoration. Wetland restoration is the key to improving water quality throughout our country," said Ted Peters, chairman, Fort Riley Ducks Unlimited.

Of the organization's \$25 national membership fee, 83 cents of every dollar goes into wetland restoration. For more information on how to become a member, call Peters at 784 - 9920. For information about the banquet, call Randy Case, Outdoor Recreation, 239-2363. The banquet is open to anyone who would like to become a member.

YMCA Art Contest deadline approaching

By Andree Swanson

Armed Services YMCA

Elementary school artists of military families have until Jan. 27 to enter the 2003 Armed Services YMCA Art Contest and earn a chance to win a \$500 Savings Bond.

The annual talent hunt is open to kindergartners through sixth graders of active and reserve component military families in all the services, including the Coast Guard.

Winners are picked from each

service and awarded a \$500 bond. Runners-up receive a \$100 bond.

Department of Defense and Coast Guard civilians' children may enter in an honorary category for a \$100 bond.

Winners' artwork is judged primarily on the theme of "My Military Family." They're featured on the Military Family Month 2003 poster, traditionally distributed around Thanksgiving. Children should draw their military family in color on 8.5-by-11-inch paper.

Include the following on the back of each entry: student's name, grade and age; address;

phone number or a parent's e-mail address; parents' names; service affiliation; rank of military member; military installation and school's name if the child attends a Defense Department school.

Mail entries to Armed Services YMCA, Attn: Art Contest, 6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22310. Entries should be postmarked no later than Jan. 27.

For more information, visit the Armed Services YMCA Web site at www.asymca.org or call (703) 313-9600. E-mail queries may be sent to militaryfamilyweek@asymca.org





DES offers safety advice for outdoor enthusiasts on post

By Chris Otto

DES Education, Awareness

Hunting, fishing, hiking, biking and bird watching are just some of the many recreational opportunities that await soldiers and civilians in the Fort Riley area. Outdoor recreation on a military installation poses hazards that are not typically encountered in other outdoor adventures. Some of the dangers that lurk in the Fort Riley "wilderness" include military training exercises, unexploded ordnance, concertina wire and hazards around historical homesteads.

With a little guidance, outdoor enthusiasts can take advantage of what America's Warfighting Center has to offer - without taking risks.

If you hunt, fish or gather fuel wood on Fort Riley, you must have the appropriate installation, state and federal permits. State hunting and fishing permits and federal migratory bird stamps are available from off-post vendors. Permit requirements described in the installation's hunting and fishing regulations and fuel woodcutting regulations are available at

the Directorate of Environment and Safety Conservation Division, building 1020. Anyone participating in outdoor activities on Fort Riley must have a Recreation Motor Vehicle Permit, which is also available at the Conservation Division.

Remember, Fort Riley's primary purpose is not to provide land for recreation. Installation security and the military mission have precedence over recreational pursuits. The installation, or portions of it, may be closed at any time - without prior notice - due to military activities, security restrictions or impassable roads. Fort Riley generously provides recreational access to the areas not being used for training.

To ensure an area is open for recreation, call the Open Area Hotline at 239-6669 or visit a hunter checkpoint, where a list of open areas is posted. Anyone interested in using the installation for recreation should become familiar with open areas and their boundaries. Maps with area boundaries are available at the Conservation building and are posted at the hunter checkpoints. When hunting in an open area, always be alert for troops.

The impact area and the Multi-Purpose Range Complex are off-limits to outdoor enthusiasts. All areas north of Vinton School Road are off-limits after sunset. According to Tom Duckworth, Fort Riley conservation officer, any off-duty soldiers found in these areas could be arrested and charged with Article 92. Failure to Obey a Lawful Order. Civilians could be charged with a felony count of Federal Criminal Trespassing. Civilian violators could also be barred from the installation and have hunting and fishing privileges revoked.

All people in areas open for outdoor recreation during the installation's firearms deer season must wear clothing with at least 200 square inches of visible surface colored blaze orange. The bright clothing must cover the front and back of a person. In addition, a blaze orange hat must be worn.

When driving in an open area, a variety of hazards exist. Military vehicles traveling on tank trails or gravel roads can generate large clouds of dust. The dust clouds can hinder visibility for the approaching vehicles and the soldiers.

When military vehicles are encountered, Privately Owned Vehicle drivers should pull completely off the road or trail until the military vehicles pass and visibility improves. Military vehicles also can leave deep ruts on trails. Be cautious when driving through rutted areas. Some ruts are deeper than they appear and can cause a vehicle to become stuck. Boulders often mark hazardous ruts or other driving hazards; never drive around these barricades.

Fort Riley has been an active military installation for nearly 150 years, and many areas on the installation may contain UXO.

Be aware of UXO, and learn how to avoid it. Ordnance, which comes in all shapes and sizes, includes bullets, bombs, rockets, simulators, grenades, blasting caps, shells and fuses.

UXO may look new or old, shiny or rusty, clean or dirty. If disturbed, UXO can become deadly. Never approach, attempt to move or disturb, a suspected UXO. Report any suspected UXO to the 774th Explosive Ordnance Detachment at 239-3313.

Concertina wire left in the field can pose a hazard to people and animals. Concertina looks similar

to barbed wire, but has razors instead of barbs. Occasionally, people encounter concertina wire in areas open to recreation. It can be dangerous, especially for hunters with dogs. If hunting with a dog, keep the animal away from any concertina wire. If concertina wire is found, never touch or move it. Mark the location and call Range Control at 239-4281. Give the best description possible, including a grid location if known, so the wire can be removed.

In 1942 and 1965, Fort Riley acquired a substantial amount of land now used for training. Before the land acquisition, over 300 homesteads and farmsteads dotted the area. Some of these sites may have open wells and cisterns, collapsed buildings, old fences and other hazards. Anyone participating in recreational activities near or around old homesteads should be cautious.

If a safety hazard is found, notify the DES at 239-8619.

For more information, visit the DES Conservation Division web site at www.riley.army.mil/Services/Fort/Environment/NatRe-sources or call 239-6211.

Normandy Theater

Tonight:

7 p.m.
Extreme Ops (PG-13)

Friday:

7 p.m.
Analyze That (R)

Saturday:

2 p.m.
Treasure Planet (PG)

7 p.m.
Die Another Day (PG-13)

Sunday:

7 p.m.
Treasure Planet (PG)

Sunday:

7 p.m.
Die Another Day (PG-13)

Ticket prices:
Adults - \$3
Children - \$1.50

Fraud Alert continued from page 7

Equifax 1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com
Trans-Union 1-800-680-7289
www.transunion.com
Experian 1-888-397-3742
(option 1) www.experian.com

Another important step to take if your identity has been stolen is to contact all of the credit card companies that you have accounts

with and inform them of what has occurred. This is to prevent someone from using your personal information to cancel your credit card and get a new one re-issued to them.

If you find that your social security information has been used by someone else, an important step will be necessary is for

you to contact the Social Security Administration Fraud Hotline: 1-800-269-0271. This is to alert the Social Security Administration IF you think your or a family member's social security number is being fraudulently used. This may mean not just for credit purposes, but for other purposes such as

employment. This is the best option if you think your social security number, or that of a family member, is being used by someone else. This may even entail having the administration issue a new number.

The worst thing you can do in this situation is nothing.

The recent identity theft incident is a serious breach of your personal identity and must be addressed quickly and completely. If you have any questions on this issue, the legal assistance office is ready to assist you. Call the legal assistance office at 239-3117, if you have any questions.

MANHATTAN PERIODONTICS
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Black Only
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Black Only
kpa/1-14 & 1-17

LEES WESTERN WEAR
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Black Only
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DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT & S
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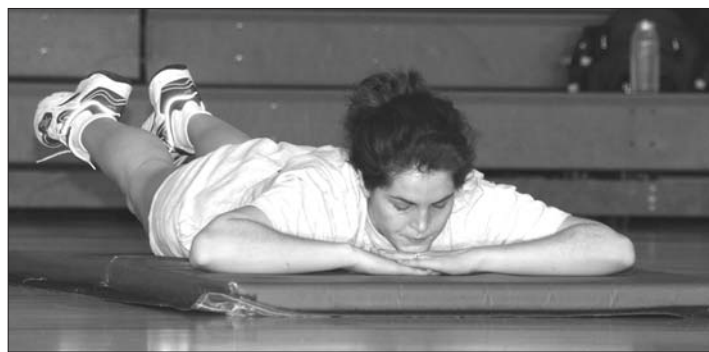
THE MARTIN AGENCY
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Alltel/Post 1-3, 10, 17, 24k1

Fort Riley Sports

January 16, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

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Lavon Chavez holds a position during the abdominal phase of an aerobics class. Aerobics classes are available at King Field House five days a week.

Working out Aerobics classes offer variety of benefits at any fitness level

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Aerobics classes are available at King Field House five days a week.

Morning classes are offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 10 a.m. and evening classes are 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. and are held on Monday and Thursday.

The classes are open to any Department of Defense identification card holder over 18 years of age.

The classes began in October and we have tried to accommodate the community and their schedules as much as possible, said Kim Miller, fitness coordinator for Fort Riley. "Aerobics has been at the top of the request list here at Fort Riley and, as with the other fitness programs, we encourage participation in order to continue the programs," she said.

The classes are adjusted to fit the level of the majority of participants, Miller said. "When a new person begins a class, the instructors are very willing to give extra help."

Most of the classes are step classes, said Miller. "We also have a kick boxing class on Wednesday

mornings," she added.

Weight loss is not the only benefit to aerobic exercise. "Aerobic exercise increases cardio-respiratory endurance and lowers the risk of heart disease and many other life threatening diseases," said Miller.

Classes begin with a warm up stretch and usually end with an abdominal workout, followed by a cool down, said Miller.

There are no refunds, so if you need incentive to keep going, paying in advance has its advantages. The cost for monthly registrants is \$1.50 per class, and you must pay for the entire month of classes. The price is \$2 per class if you want to pay for each class as you go, said Miller. "We will prorate the amounts if you sign up in the middle of the month," she added.

The aerobics program is currently hiring instructors. Applicants need to be certified by the American Counsel on Exercise, Aerobic and Fitness Association of America, American College of Sports and Medicine or an equivalent program. They also need to be Cardio-pulmonary Resuscitation and First Aid certified. To apply, bring a resume to the Sports Department at King Field House or call Kim Miller, 239-2813.



Tara Meadows stretches out during the cool down phase of an aerobics class.



(Front to back) Jenise Herron, Tara Meadows and Taureeq Bradley work up a sweat during an aerobics class at King Field House.

Hard work brings PT award to 4-1 FA battery

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Soldiers from Battery B, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery received a streamer recently for their guidon and a medal of excellence for physical training after winning the Fort Riley Old Trooper Challenge.

Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, presented the unit with the award during a ceremony in December.

The Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA has won the award for two years in a row in the post-wide competition.

"I knew we were to win this competition when I took over the PT program," said 1st Sgt. Alan J. Bouska, Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA.

"I changed up the PT routine so we would do something different everyday and also made it fun for the soldiers," said Bouska.

In the history of the Old Trooper Challenge, 16 units have been tested, nine of which received the award, and Btry. B, 4th Bn., 1st FA is the only unit to recertify for the award twice, said Command Sgt. Maj. James R. Savitski, 4th Bn., 1st FA.

"First Sgt. Bouska played a big part in winning the award by setting the example to his soldiers by

scoring a 323 (extended scale) on his PT test," Savitski said.

All units on Fort Riley are eligible to enter the contest by applying for a scored PT test date at the post's G3 shop.

The date for the PT test needs to be scheduled six weeks out, said Bouska.

The G3 shop will then coordinate with another unit from the brigade to be the graders for the test.

To win, at least 85 percent of the unit's personnel must participate in the test, and as a whole, the unit must have a test average of 250 points, he said.

To achieve an average as high as 250 points, Bouska had a preliminary PT test at six weeks out from the date to be graded to see what areas would need to be focused on.

"After the preliminary test, the first three weeks were focused on push-ups and sit-ups. The last three weeks was nothing but a lot of running," he said.

During the award ceremony, Hearron stressed how important the soldier's physical fitness is to the Army.

"Physical fitness is the key to everything we do in peacetime, and even more so in times of war," Hearron said.

Local area has several ORV areas open for use

Looking for that perfect place to use your off-road vehicle?

Well, you are in luck. Although Fort Riley does not currently permit ORV use, the Corps of Engineers has constructed three ORV areas in the surrounding community. Those areas are School Creek ORV Area, the Spillway Cycle Area and the Tuttle Creek ORV Area. Riders are encouraged to be safe and enjoy the ride.

The School Creek ORV Area, Milford Lake, consists of approximately 287 acres. It is restricted to vehicles that are 50 inches wide or less. Full size 4-wheel drive vehicles and dune buggies are not allowed to operate on the trails. Kansas State safety regulations are in effect in the area, to include mandatory eyewear for all operators and mandatory helmets for juveniles. ORV vehicles that are not licensed for the highway cannot be operated on roadways outside of the riding area.

The primitive park is free of charge and has a staging/parking lot area. Directions to the School Creek ORV area from Junction City are: go two miles NW on KS 57 Hwy., then go four miles west on KS 244 Hwy., then eight miles north on County Road 837; turn east onto Luttman Road and fol-

low it. Luttman Road dead ends at the ORV staging/parking lot.

The Spillway Cycle Area at Tuttle Creek Dam adjoins the spillway just below the east end of the dam, with access off of Dyer Road. The park is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. year-round. The Cycle Area is comprised of 90 acres of open and wooded terrain adjacent to the spillway. Several miles of trails have been developed, ranging from level stretches to challenging hill climbs. The area is open to bicycles and to all two-, three- and four-wheeled motorized vehicles with a wheelbase under 66 inches. This measurement is taken from the center of each axle. Dune buggies, four-wheel drive vehicles and other machines with a wheel base greater than 66 inches are welcome to use the Tuttle Creek ORV Area near Randolph.

The Tuttle Creek ORV Area is located two miles southeast of Randolph, with access off Riley County Road 893 to Secrest Road, then one and a half miles east. This 310-acre park is open to all motorized and non-motorized vehicles. Miles of trails with steep climbs, sharp turns and rugged

See ORV Areas Page 10

Red-tailed hawks most common bird of prey on Fort Riley, in nation

By Alan Hynek
DES Biologist

The most common hawk on Fort Riley is also the most common bird of prey in North America. The red-tailed hawk is a member of the Buteo family, which includes the red-shouldered hawk, Swainson's hawk and gray hawk, among others.

Like most raptors in this family, the red-tailed hawk soars over open country in search of prey, but also perches in trees watching for an opportunity.

As the name implies, the red tail is a defining characteristic. However, red-tailed hawk identification is not always easy and can be downright confusing. First off, the red colored tail is only found in adult birds in their second year.

To further confuse identification, red-tailed hawks have light and dark morpho-

logical features. Across North America, there is a higher percentage of light phase than dark phase red-tailed hawks. But the percentage of dark phase red-tails increases as you travel west. Additionally, the juvenile red-tailed hawk is often so dark that no markings are apparent. It also does not have a red tail, so identification can be difficult.

The red-tailed hawk averages 18-24 inches in length. As with most birds of prey, the female is about 25 percent larger than the male. Red-tail hawks are monogamous and will remain together for many years. They are also very territorial, with ranges up to two square miles. Approximately 80 percent of their diet consists of small mammals, including mice, rats and rabbits. The remainder of their diet consists of reptiles and other birds.

The DES Conservation Division has conducted winter raptor counts over the last 15 years. The species composition of all raptors has stayed relatively constant, with about 75 percent being red-tailed hawks. Other birds of prey commonly documented on Fort Riley include rough-legged hawk, kestrel, northern harrier,

barred owl, prairie falcon and bald eagles.

The eyesight of a red-tailed hawk is eight times as powerful as a human's. If a hawk could read, it could read a newspaper from seven stories high or see a mouse in a field a mile away. However, powerful distance eyesight comes with a

trade off. Most hawks are farsighted, which is why they sometimes fly into fences or poles.

In some cultures, such as the Native American culture, hawks and eagles are considered sacred. Hawks are symbols of spirit, wisdom and power. Even their feathers and talons have a special meaning in ceremonies and ceremonial dress.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act, The Bald Eagle Protection Act and The Endangered Species Act protect the taking or possession of any part of a raptor except for special circumstances, including ceremonial use by Native Americans. The word hawk is the common name for many of the birds of prey of the family Accipitridae, which also includes the

eagles, kites and harriers. Members of the genus Buteo are also called "hawks" in North America and "buzzards" in the Old World.

In the Americas, some members of the related family Falconidae have been called "hawks" in the past; the peregrine falcon, for example, was known as "duck hawk."

The osprey is commonly called "fish hawk and the kestrel "chicken hawk." There is no clear-cut definition of just what constitutes a "hawk."

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act makes it unlawful for anyone to kill, capture, collect, possess, buy, sell, trade, ship, import or export any migratory bird, including feathers, parts, nests or eggs. Furthermore, bald eagles and golden eagles are protected under the Endangered

Species Act and Eagle Protection Act.

For more information on birds of prey, contact the Conservation Division at 239-6211 or visit their website at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Services/Fort/Environment/NatResources>. You can also visit the Milford Nature Center, where several birds of prey are on display.



U.S. Fish, Wildlife Service
Red-tailed hawk



U.S. Fish, Wildlife Service
A red-tailed hawk in flight. As the name implies, the red tail is a defining characteristic.

On the Wildside: News About Nature



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



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Port Riley Post

January 16, 2003

ITR

The Information, Ticketing & Registration office is located in building 6918 (across from the PK). ITR's hours of operation are Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. The office is closed weekends and holidays. For further information, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415. Also, check out the Department of the Army Leisure Travel website at www.offdutytravel.com for more great deals on travel.

Almond Vacations

Imagine a world of gentle trade winds that carry guests across turquoise seas and onto mile after mile of white sand beaches. Imagine a place where they start their day with a leisurely stroll or a quick nine holes. Fill their afternoons snorkeling, sailing or lying alongside any of the thirteen freshwater swimming pools. Enjoy nights that begin at any of the six distinctive world-class restaurants and conclude at one of the clubs or walking beneath a star-filled Caribbean sky. Any choice you make will always be the right one, because it will always be yours. And, if it involves meals, beverages, activities, entertainment and gratuities, it will always be included, Almond Resorts Barbados' premier all-inclusive. Let ITR put together a package.

Disney's Aladdin

A musical spectacular is now open at Disney's California Adventure Park. Disney's Aladdin runs approximately 40 minutes and is presented several times a day in the Hyperion Theatre. It is free to park guests with paid

admission to Disney's California Adventure. The production is a spectacular entertainment that, over the course of a single act, tells the story of Aladdin and his adventures involving the beautiful Princess Jasmine; her father the Sultan; the evil Jafar and of course, Aladdin's hysterical wish granting Genie. Discount tickets are available through ITR.

Colorado Ski Packages

Colorado Ski Packages - They've started out the New Year on the right foot with new snow at Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, and Keystone and Winter Park! Now that the hustle and bustle of the holidays is over, it's time to plan a relaxing getaway to the mountains. Whether it's a day at the spa, or a day on the slopes, you can be sure to find something at their resorts to help your body unwind. Military discounts available for Colorado lift tickets. Let ITR put together a ski package for you.

Winter Park Resort

Looking for the perfect Colorado mountain experience? Look no further than Winter Park, a haven for skiers and snowboarders hungry for great terrain and the deepest powder of any major ski resort. When it comes to snowfall, almost nobody gets more than Winter Park. Can anything top their snow? Probably not. But, their lodging and lift ticket packages make Winter Park more affordable than ever.

Breckenridge Ski Resort

With over 171 registered buildings, Breckenridge boasts one of Colorado's largest historic districts. Breckenridge is consistently rated as one of the most exciting mountain resorts in the world. Visitors can choose from outstanding fine-cuisine restaurants, cozy bistros and outrageous dance clubs. With over 200 shops, art galleries and restaurants, Breckenridge offers something for everyone.

Keystone Mountain Resort

Ski or snowboard on Keystone Mountain until 8 p.m. or ride the River Run gondola to Point for lift served tubing, snow biking and snow shoeing under the lights. Enjoy live après-ski music at Keystone Village - providing great lodging, dining, shopping and nightlife.

Vail Ski Resort

Blue Sky Basin's 645 acres of naturally gladdened terrain features blankets of deep powder and groomed tree runs. With the addition of three high-speed quads serving Blue Sky Basin, Vail continues to offer the most extensive terrain and lift network in the country. Upgrades to the snow-making system allows for better early-season coverage. Vail is one of the best après-ski and late-night towns in the country.

Adventure Ridge offers on-mountain fun for the whole family with tubing, snow biking, thrill

slidding, ice-skating and more.

Snow Creek Learn to Ski Tour

If you ever wanted to try the sport of skiing or wanted a friend to learn...now is the time! On Monday and Feb. 10, ski in historical Weston, Mo., located 15 minutes from KCI airport. Snow Creek has 100 percent snowmaking capabilities. Cost is \$20 and includes a special rope tow ticket (valid for beginners area only), complete set of rental equipment, beginner lesson and transportation. Skiers wishing to use the chairlift can purchase a discount lift ticket through ITR. Snowboarding also available. Limited space, so make reservations early. Tour is "FREE" to BOSS (Single Soldiers).

Sleep to the Slopes

Sleep to the Slopes is the theme of ITR's most popular trip packages. Two, three and four-day trips are offered most weekends throughout the ski season. Trip includes transportation on deluxe sleeper motor coach, hotel or condo lodging and lift tickets for each ski day. On the 40-passenger sleeper motor coach two people face another two people, with a table in-between creating a booth. There are 10 booths on the coach. The seats on this coach convert into bunk beds allowing passengers to lie down horizontally and catch some sleep while driving across Kansas at night. Wake up rested and ready to ski or snowboard the next morning. An example package would cost \$466.00

per person for three ski days and would include lift tickets for three days, hotel accommodations and transportation via sleeper bus. Call ITR for dates and package prices.

Union Station

Union Station, Kansas City, is a wonderful place to explore history and science. Your best value is a Science City Passport that includes Science City and two shows. In the city, dance with a Samba band, walk through the inside of a human body, see new science demos and explore the traveling exhibit Robotics in the Exhibit Gallery. See a giant-screen movie or planetarium show. Take a guided tour of the building and visit the history exhibit- Candy, Coffee and a Smile. Discount tickets are now available through ITR.

Commercial Leisure Travel

ITR can now assist you with leisure commercial travel. Make your plans early for better pricing and ticket availability. A computer KIOSK is available at ITR for customer use in booking airlines

through the Internet, or call ITR for assistance in booking your commercial travel.

Walt Disney World

Prepare to be awed, inspired, thrilled and enchanted. This is, without a doubt, the most magical time in your life, visiting the world's vacation kingdom. The Walt Disney World Resort special 50 percent discount military room night offer is being extended to Feb. 12. All active U.S. military personnel are eligible for these special rates. This includes active members and activated members of the National Guard and Reservists. Activated members of the National Guard or Reservists must show active duty orders.

Carnival Cruise

Dollar for vacation dollar, you get more for your money on a "Fun Ship" cruise vacation, because one price covers virtually everything. Military discounts available.

Discount Movie Tickets

Passes may be used at Carmike Cinemas, Manhattan. Tickets cost is \$5.50.

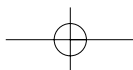
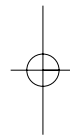
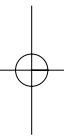
ORV Areas continued from page 9

terrain await the off-road enthusiast. This is a day-use only recreation area. The park is closed from sunset to sunrise. Major highways leading to Tuttle Creek Lake are US 24, US 77, K-13 and K-16. Motorists using I-70 will find the easiest route via K-177 at exit 313. Go north nine miles to Manhattan, then head north on US 24, also known as Tuttle Creek Boulevard, five miles to the visitor center.

HOUSE ADS
6 x 12.5"
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AUSA--IF POSSIBLE



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black





Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



U.S. ARMY RESERVES- ARMED FORCE
6 x 21.25"
Black Only
Washington Mon./1-17 & 1-31